GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4998
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2001
NAVRATNA STATUS
JASWANT SINGH YADAV;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to accord Navratna Status to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted to accord Navratna Status; and

(d) the number of Public Sector Undertakings has come under the said status?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has submitted a proposal for grant of higher status than Navratna (Maha Navratna), since the powers available to Navratna Companies are not considered adequate by BSNL for their efficient functioning. The competent authority will take appropriate decision after due consideration of the proposal.

(c) Although, no fixed criteria was adopted by Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) for according Navratna Status, but various factors like size, performance, nature of activity, future proposals and the potential to develop as a global giant, etc. have been taken into consideration in selecting Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) as Navratna enterprises. However, now the criteria is being finalised by DPE.

(d) In 1997, Government identified 11 PSUs as Navratnas. They are Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Bharat Petroleur Corporation Limited (BPCL), Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Indian C Corporation (IOC), Indian Petroleum Corporation Limited (IPCL), Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), National Therm Power Corporation (NTPC), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Videsh Sanch Nigam Limited (VSNL).